

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The applicants' attorneys appreciate the Examiner's thorough search and remarks.

Responsive to the first objection set forth in paragraph 2 of the Office Action, the specification has been corrected.

Responsive to the second objection set forth in paragraph 2 of the Office Action, the applicants' attorneys have been unable to find the mentioned redundant claims. In the interest of efficient prosecution, the Examiner is hereby authorized to cancel any redundant claims in the application.

The limitations of claims 2 and 5 have been combined with claim 1. Accordingly, claims 2 and 5 have been canceled.

Claim 1 now calls for the shielding layer to also function as a black matrix for the liquid crystal display. In the Office Action, it has been asserted that Sera, U.S. Patent No. 6,559,913, shows that "the opaque shielding layer also functions as a light shielding film (applicants' black matrix) for said display." However, a close examination of the disclosure of Sera leads to the conclusion that the device of Sera includes both an opaque shielding 3 as well as a black matrix 12 (see Fig. 2(e)). That is, in the device shown by Sera the opaque shielding 3 does not function as the black matrix. It is respectfully submitted, therefore, that claim 1 should be deemed allowable over Sera.

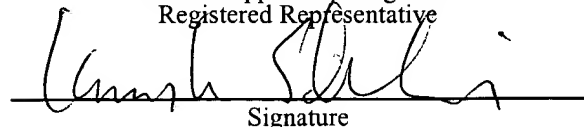
Claims 3 and 24-32 depend from claim 1. Each of these claims includes the limitations of claim 1 and additional limitation in combination with the limitations of claim 1, which are not shown or suggested by the art of record. It is respectfully submitted that claims 3 and 24-32 should also be deemed allowable over the art of record.

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Such action is earnestly solicited.

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Name of applicant, assignee or
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Signature

January 7, 2004

Date of Signature

SHW:KS:ck

Respectfully submitted,


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